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Worldwide Report

LAW OF THE SEA

No. 132



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COOK ISLANDS BAN TAIWAN TUNA BOATS FROM 200-MILE ZONE

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 25 Sep 80 p 11

[Text]

Herald Marine Reporter

Taiwanese fishing boats have been officially banned from the Cook Islands 200-mile zone, pending an agreement.

The Cook Islands Government has concluded its first round of negotiations with Taiwan and, according to its chief negotiator, Mr P. B. Temm, QC, more talks are needed.

Taiwanese fishing boats have been taking more than 3000 tonnes of tuna a year from the zone. The Cook Islands Government has called for more statistical information from Taiwanese fishermen before negotiations proceed.

Mr Temm said New Zealand aircraft had proved Taiwanese fishing boats have been operating well within the 200-mile zone and not a short distance east of American Samoa as they claimed.

The next round of negotiations is expected to begin in Rarotonga in about two months.

CS0: 5200

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIA-JAPAN FISHING ACCORD--Australia's tuna fishermen have welcomed Japan's agreement to limit its fishing operations in Australian waters. Under the 1-year agreement announced in Canberra yesterday, Japan will lose 20 percent of its fishing interests in Australia, and the black marlin fishing grounds off northern Queensland will be closed to Japanese fishing vessels. The president of the Australian Fishing Industry Council says the move will give the expanding Australian tuna fleet better opportunities to improve. [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Oct 80 OW]

CSO: 5200

COMMITTEE FOR SEA RESOURCES EXPLOITATION MEETS

Dacca THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 31 Aug 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The first meeting of the National Committee for the Exploration and Exploitation of the Resources of Seas and Oceans constituted as per decision of the National Economic Council (NEC) was held in Dacca on Saturday, according to an official source.

Dr. R. A. Ghani, Minister of State for Science and Technology and Chairman of the National Committee for the Exploration and Exploitation of the Resources of the Seas and Oceans (NCEERSO), presided.

The Minister of State initiated the discussion by explaining that the committee has been constituted to study, examine and recommend to the Government measures for exploration and exploitation of the resources of the seas and oceans. This, he said, will be a policy-making committee, but its actions will be based on the survey and studies to be conducted with direct participation and assistance from the committee. He informed the committee that the Government was determined to harness the sea where vast untapped potentiality for our national prosperity was awaiting for exploitation. He stressed that the scientists and technologists must come forward with firm determination to work with the Government in fulfilling these goals.

In course of discussions it was observed that not much have been done in respect of scientific studies for the exploration and exploitation of the resources in the Bay of Bengal. The scanty knowledge available is also scattered, so it was felt that the preliminary work of the committee will be to consolidate this knowledge. Protection of the marine environment was also considered to be one of the important subjects for the committee to consider.

It was decided in the meeting that the committees will immediately focus on identifying the fields of exploration, gather existing information and facilities in the country.

CSO: 5200

INDIAN DELEGATE REPORTS ON GENEVA PARLEY

Madras THE HINDU in English 30 Aug 80 p 9

[Text] New Delhi. Aug. 29.

India's initiative led to the solution of critical issues of decision-making procedures in the council of the proposed International Seabed Authority and transfer of technology for mining at the just concluded ninth session of the U.S. conference on the law of the sea at Geneva.

Mr. Shiv Shankar, Union Law Minister, who led the country's delegation to the conference, told newsmen on his return here last night that from India's point of view, his visit was highly successful.

He said that India's basic idea, which found favour among the participating nations, was that critical issues should be decided through consensus in the Seabed Authority and that substantive issues could be resolved through two-thirds or three-fourth majority.

The conference decided that the Authority would form an enterprise for seabed mining. The industrialised nations and other capable States could work out seabed mining up to 50 per cent in international waters.

The rest would be done by the proposed enterprise which would be in a position to carry out seabed mining by 1990.

As far as the financing was concerned, each nation would give 50 per cent of the cost of mining work as cash to the Seabed Authority for utilisation by the enterprise. For the remaining amount, the countries would stand guarantee on loans the Authority would secure from the World Bank or even industrialised nations.

India, Mr. Shiv Shankar said, might take five to six years to be ready to submit a plan of work for seabed mining.

He also said that industrialised nations would transfer technology to the proposed enterprise for 10 years from the date it was ready for seabed mining.

The Minister expected that the draft convention of the conference, consisting of some 303 articles and eight annexures would be adopted at the next session of the conference at New York in March next year.

The Authority would come up after the convention was ratified by the member-nations some time in September 1981 in Caracas.

Mr. Shiv Shankar emphasised at the conference that a large number of minerals were found in the seabed and once it was conceded that it was the heritage of mankind, the question was how this heritage could be shared by different nations.--PTI

CSO: 5200

OIL SEARCH TO ACCELERATE AFTER SHELF SURVEY

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 4 Aug 80 p 7

[Text]

NEW DELHI, August 3.

THE completion of the seismic survey of the entire Indian continental shelf in the current year will lead to accelerated oil exploration in the offshore regions, the details of which are being worked out by a secretarial committee appointed by the petroleum ministry.

The emphasis will shift to offshore exploration because it is estimated that two-thirds of the country's oil reserves are in the shelf. Recent discoveries confirm this promise.

Although oil has been discovered at Pamar near Kalol and Motwan near Ahkleshwar, as also in Barails of Galeki well No. 31 in Assam, the most significant strike is considered to be the one on the shelf off the Godavari Basin. Besides, oil has also been found in four structures in offshore areas adjoining Bombay High.

Not promising oil explorations on shore, particularly in the Rajasthan desert, Tripura and West Bengal, have not yielded any promising results. The exploration drive is, however, being intensified in the eastern region. But this is because of Russian insistence that there is oil in this region.

Since ONGC experts do not share this optimism of the Soviets, some changes in the agreement on Russian assistance was made when a Soviet team of experts, headed by a minister, visited India recently. Under the new arrangement, the Soviet experts will take the leadership in the exploration drive and the ONGC will provide full co-operation.

Hopes for meeting the oil crisis in the coming years, when world supply of crude will start tapering off, mainly rests on increasing production from the known offshore reserves as well as on making new oil strikes in the shelf. The ONGC production target for the next three years shows an increase in the exploitation of the offshore reserves — from 5.90 million tonnes in the

current year to nine million tonnes in 1982-83. From the onshore wells, production will be increased only by 200,000 tonnes.

The anxiety about the present situation is reflected in the government's decision to invite private foreign parties to explore the shelf. The details of the terms under which this will be allowed are being worked out.

The discovery of a number of gas-fields in the offshore areas recently also indicates an increase in the use of gas from this sector, but an interstate dispute is hampering its speedy exploitation. Gujarat has demanded the landfall point for the gas pipeline from Bombay High to be located at Ubhrat in south Gujarat instead of, as Navpur in Maharashtra. The matters now remains deadlocked in the committee appointed to examine the two claims.

BIG POTENTIAL

The potential of the gas finds in the region is such that they can provide feedstock for several large-sized fertiliser and petrochemical complexes.

To increase the availability of LPG, high-speed diesel and other petroleum products, emphasis is being laid on the expansion of secondary processing facilities, in accordance with the recommendations of a working group set up by the petroleum ministry. An experts committee has also been set up to make suitable recommendations on the location and product-mix of a new grass-root refinery.

The expected completion of the Mathura refinery in the first half of next year will considerably ease the availability of petroleum products in the northern region. The 803-km. pipeline from Viramgam for transporting Bombay High and imported crude to Mathura is being laid. Another pipeline from Mathura to Delhi, Ambala and Jullundur for transporting petroleum products will facilitate their distribution in the region.

INDIA

BRIEFS

COAST GUARD STRENGTHENING INDICATED--The coast guards organization is being strengthened to check poaching by foreign trawlers in the country's exclusive economic zone. This was stated by Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi when she was addressing a 5-day senior naval officers conference in New Delhi. Complimenting the Navy for its courage and dedication, the prime minister assured that their essential requirements will receive urgent attention of the government. In his welcome address, the chief of the naval staff Admiral R.L. Pereira suggested that a high-powered ocean management board be set up to examine all aspects of managing the resources in the ocean. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Oct 80]

CSO: 5200

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

FOREIGN SHIPS PROCEDURES--Jakarta, 15 Oct (AFP)--All foreign vessels are prohibited from engaging in fishing within the Indonesian 200-mile exclusive economic zone except by permit of the fisheries directorate-general of the Agriculture Ministry on the application of the foreign government concerned, a Foreign Ministry circular said. The circular, issued today to foreign representations and international agencies in Jakarta, also lists procedures toward obtaining three-month but extensible permits for foreign fishing ships. Applications should state name, tonnage, crew list and call-sign of vessel, operational area, and types as well as quantity of fish to be caught. The 200-mile zone was proclaimed by the Indonesian Government last March 21. [Text] [BK151355 Hong Kong AFP in English 1340 GMT 15 Oct 80]

CSO: 5200

MARINE POLLUTION ACT DEFICIENCIES TO BE REMEDIED

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 19 Sep 80 p 5

[Text]

Wellington Bureau

The Government will set up a working party to try to remedy serious deficiencies in the Marine Pollution Act which have been discovered by the statutes revision committee.

Parliament was told yesterday that, if a major oil spillage occurred on the New Zealand coast, the present provisions of the act could lead to severe difficulties in sorting out liability, clean-up costs and damages claims.

The problems cropped up when the committee was studying the Marine Pollution Amendment Bill, which was reported back to Parliament yesterday.

Tidy Up

Its main purpose was to bring into New Zealand law matters relating to the dumping and incineration of wastes at sea.

The committee found no problems in that section and recommended that the bill go ahead.

However, it could not go along with efforts to tidy up definitions in the principal act relating to such things as "internal waters" and "owner".

The committee found that the principal act needed a complete review because of problems in such interpretations and in the approach of prosecuting authorities such as harbour boards when deciding between criminal and civil liability in pursuing claims for oil spillages and other forms of pollution.

The committee chairman, Mr B. E. Brill (Govt-Kapiti), said that the evidence before the committee had shown that the act was "not the most readily understandable of our statutes."

Overlapping

"Its main problem is that it attempts to legislate into domestic law a multiplicity of provisions contained in at least six different international conventions," he told Parliament.

In doing so, the principal act enacted penal provisions based on descriptions of occurrences, vessels, persons and substances, some of

which overlapped in inappropriate ways.

"As a result," said Mr Brill, "criminal procedures are used against persons who in strict law have little connection with the ships involved."

"Nor are the realities of present-day insurance arrangements catered for in the existing provisions governing criminal liability."

Convenient

Differences in the provisions relating to criminal and civil liability apparently tempted harbour boards to endorse what were essentially civil law responsibilities by using the criminal sanction of a fine plus related clean-up expenses.

In addition, it would almost invariably be more convenient for a harbour board to prosecute the New Zealand agent rather than the overseas owner.

Mr Brill added that the provisions of the act enabling an order for clean-up costs

to be made in association with the criminal conviction of an agent could be contrary to New Zealand's obligations under the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969.

Daunting

"As yet, New Zealand has been lucky enough to avoid any really major oil spillage," he said.

"If such a spillage occurred with the act in its present form then the problems in sorting out liability, clean-up costs and damages claims could be daunting."

Mr Brill said the Government had accepted the committee's recommendation that the act be reviewed. In particular, the working party would look at the definitions of "internal waters" and "owner" and also the differences between civil and criminal liability and how the different proceedings should apply to owners, agents, insurers and others.

MORE LOCAL CONTROL OF JOINT FISHING VENTURES ASKED

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 18 Sep 80 p 5

[Text]

Press Assn

Wellington

The Fishing Industry Board wants mixed fishing ventures "New Zealandised" as fast as possible.

Almost all the mixed fishing ventures working off the coast are still mainly "foreign-run" and only a tiny portion of their earnings finish up in New Zealand, it says.

"In most cases the vessels are foreign-owned, they are crewed wholly or substantially by foreign nationals, much of the product they are landing undergoes no further processing in New Zealand and the sole initial benefit to New Zealand lies in the ultimate remission of as little as 5 per cent of the net foreign exchange earnings."

In its annual report, tabled in Parliament yesterday, the board recommends stepping up the programme of "New Zealandisation" by:

- Increasing New Zealand crewing.

- New Zealand investment in the fishing vessels.

- Investment in cold stores and processing factories.

- Increasing domestic content by increased processing.

- Sharing in the risks of such a venture.

Problems

The board notes that there are difficulties in achieving more New Zealand control.

Mixed fishing ventures, it says, face the same economic problems as the rest of the industry—cash-flow problems and areas of intense exploitation of resources.

Elsewhere in its report, the board says fishermen need an income stabilisation scheme along the lines of those run by primary producer boards.

It cites increased costs, price and catch fluctuations and the need for large capital investment which, it says, have left many in the industry without enough cash on hand to meet financial commitments in a bad year.

Step Up

"The board believes that some sort of price-support mechanism will be needed on a continuing basis for those sectors expanding into the less profitable species," says the report.

It also urges the Government to step up its level of funding of board activities.

The Government grant was cut from \$400,000 to \$200,000 last year and, to continue its programme, the board was forced to delve into reserves to fund its research marketing programmes.

Subsidy

"If Government contributions remain at this low level in the 1980-81 year, the board will be obliged to defer or reduce many of its planned activities," says the report.

Levies from fishermen last year accounted for almost \$200,000 of the board's revenue, and the Government grant represented a subsidy of about 25c in the dollar.

BRIEFS

FISH EXPORTS--Wellington (Press Assn)--Exports of New Zealand's burgeoning fishing industry jumped by 54 per cent in value last year, while tonnages almost doubled. The New Zealand Fishing Industry Board report, tabled in Parliament yesterday, shows that total fish exports last year fetched \$97.6 million. Fin-fish accounted for the major portion of exports with snapper contributing \$13.1 million, tuna \$6.9 million and eels \$4.4 million. Exports of shellfish were up by more than 300 per cent to 10,738 tonnes, worth \$17.4 million. The report attributed the increase to exports of joint-venture squid. There were, however, significant increases in exported quantities of mussels, octopus and crabs, which together realised more than \$500,000. Japan was the major fish export market, taking \$27.6 million worth of fish, followed by the United States, which took \$24 million, and Australia, \$16.5 million. [Text] [Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 18 Sep 80 p 5]

SNAPPER CURBS--(HERALD Marine Reporter)--The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is likely to introduce curbs on snapper and trevally fishing in the Bay of Plenty because of a dramatic decline in catches. Trawl surveys have shown that adult snapper catches have declined by 88 per cent and trevally by 97 per cent this year, compared with a similar survey in 1961. Adult snapper and trevally are almost certainly being overfished in this region, according to the ministry's research scientist Mr G. James. "While this does not seem to have yet significantly reduced the number of small snapper and trevally it could be unwise to delay action until a reduction is obvious, as by then the situation may be too late to rectify," he said. "A considerable reduction in effort and catches is needed in the Bay of Plenty if the best yields are to be obtained." The ministry has conducted test trawls in the same areas between March and May, this year, to compare with tests in a similar period in 1961. The catch rates for two less-important species--red gurnard and john dory--appear to have increased in that period. [Text] [Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 16 Sep 80 p 8]

BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL FISHERY ORGANIZATIONS--The government will seek to join international fishery organizations including the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) and major international fisheries-related organizations as part of its effort, to expand cooperative relations with those coastal nations that are abundant in fishery resources, National Fisheries Administration (NFA) sources said yesterday. When Korea gains its membership in the international fishery organizations, according to the sources, it will greatly contribute to the development of the domestic fishery industry because Korea's membership in the NAFO and the international bodies will give improved chances for Korean fishery firms to participate in fishery resources development projects sponsored by member countries, of those international organizations. Among the fishery organizations in which Korea will apply for the membership, NFA sources said, are, besides the NAFO, the International Commission for the South East Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council (IPPC), Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic Fisheries (CECAF), Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) and International Whaling Commission (IWC). [Text] [SK070139 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Oct 80 p 3]

CSO: 5200

MINISTER COMMENTS ON FISHING VIOLATIONS; U.S. BOATS FINED

PA251605 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 25 Oct 80

[Text] National Fishery Director Marcos Zambrano Zambrano has levied fines totaling 2.5 million sucres against three U.S. fishing boats captured by navy patrol boats Friday while fishing 100 miles off Santa Elena Peninsula. Zambrano fined the fishing boat Mary \$169,000, the Carolina \$145,000 and the Cindy Anne \$287,000 in accordance with Ecuadorian law which calls for sanctions against any foreign boat caught fishing within Ecuador's 200-mile territorial limit without governmental authority. The three boats had 1,500 tons of catch aboard when they were captured by the navy.

Referring to the holding of the U.S. fishing boats in Ecuadorian jurisdictional waters, Marcos Subia, defense minister, reminded the United States that Ecuador is a sovereign state whose laws cannot be violated.

While accompanying President Jaime Roldos at a ceremony in Salinas to celebrate the 12d graduation of Ecuadorian Air Force officers, Subia dismissed the possibility of a revival of the so-called tuna war which marred relations between the two countries several years ago. He said the three tuna boats are in Manta awaiting the imposition of the respective sanctions, which will include the confiscation of their catches. He said the navy has specific instructions from the Defense Ministry to enforce Ecuador's rights within its territorial sea. He added that he hopes there will not be cause for further boat captures and that U.S. boatowners will obtain the proper fishing permits from the Ecuadorian Government on time.

CSO: 5200

EDITORIAL STRESSES NEED TO INTEGRATE FISHING INTO ECONOMY

Nouakchott CHAAB in French 9 Sep 80 pp 1, 8

[Editorial: "The Point: Necessary Integration of Fishing into the National Economy"]

[Text] The importance of the fishing sector, for a country like ours, whose coasts are rich in fishing resources, is not overlooked by anyone. This importance is all the more true to the extent that our country, confronted by the harsh reality of an unfavorable economic situation, is experiencing a difficult situation following years of drought.

Throughout the world one is becoming more and more aware of the importance of the resources of the sea for the future of all humanity.

With concern for operating a reconversion of our national economy and in order to better control the exploitation of our coasts, the CMSN [Military Committee for National Salvation] has defined the broad guidelines of the fishing policy that our country will henceforth have to follow.

It is for this purpose and in order to obtain the cooperation of national staffs in working out this new policy that a seminar on the development of the fishing sector was started yesterday and will continue until next Wednesday, to find ways and means of guaranteeing a quick integration of this sector into the national economy.

These days of reflection will make it possible for national operators to bring about a completely fair and sincere contribution to the implementation of a viable fishing policy that will protect the interests of Mauritania.

It is not necessary to return to choices that have already been made, because in any case they would not be given further consideration.

Our country in fact has decided to give priority to the development of the occupation of fishing, which will constitute the main basis of our fishing

policy. It has also decided to cancel fishing licenses and at the same time develop means of supervising our coasts.

Seminar participants will thus have to consider these facts and orient their discussions toward a search for a positive contribution that is likely to consolidate these options.

The seminar in which they are participating is of great importance to national management and the entire country. It falls within the framework of the five-year plan.

8255

CSO: 5200

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

GHANAIAN FISHING VESSELS RELEASED BY ANGOLA

Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 10 Oct 80 p 8

[Text] Two State Fishing Corporation vessels which were arrested by the Angolan authorities for allegedly fishing illegally in Angolan territorial waters have been released following the intervention of the President, Dr Hilla Limann.

The vessels, the "Shama" and the "Tono" were seized and the crew threatened with prosecution five weeks ago for violating Angolan laws. The likely penalties for this was going to be a heavy fine and the possible seizure of the fishing gear of the two vessels.

On learning of the detention of the ships and their crew, the President sent a special delegation to Angola led by Dr E.K. Andah, Minister of Agriculture, which successfully negotiated the release of the ships with Angolan President, Jose Eduardo dos Santos and his Ministers.

In releasing the ships, the Angolan authorities stressed that they were doing so as a gesture of friendship of the people of Angola towards the people of Ghana who had assisted at a time when the Angolan people needed help. However, they warned that they would not countenance any future violations.

Accordingly, the Minister of Agriculture has warned all Ghanaian registered fishing vessels to stay away from the fishing waters of countries with which Ghana does not have any bilateral fishing agreements, especially Angola.

Quite apart from any penalties which any crew might face abroad for not heeding this warning, the Government will take other strong measures at home against them.

CSO: 5200

ZIMBABWE ACCUSED OF VIOLATING ZAMBIAN WATERS

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 11 Oct 80 p 5

[Text]

Zambian fishermen in the Chirundu and Siavonga areas have accused Zimbabwean wildlife officials of violating Zambian territorial waters and airspace using patrolling as a pretext.

Member of Parliament for Siavonga, Mr Shumba Hapunda, was also told when he toured the district for 11 days that unless the Zimbabwean officials refrained from violating Zambian territorial waters, they would continue fishing in the Zimbabwean waters on the Zambezi River.

The charges follow the arrest of 27 Zambian fishermen last June by Zimbabwean officials. Half of the fishermen were jailed by a Karoi Court.

During one of the meetings addressed by Mr Hapunda, the fishermen also called on the Zambian police to patrol the river on the Zambian side in order that all Zimbabweans violating our territorial waters could also be arrested.

So far, an on-the-spot survey has indicated that at least two dug-out canoes and four fish nets belonging to Zambians got destroyed and confiscated respectively by Zimbabwean wildlife officials every week.

The bone of contention remains that while Zambians are told to keep off Zimbabwean waters, the Zimbabweans themselves actually come to the Zambian shores with their power boats and helicopters.

However, in at least seven of his 11 meetings he has addressed, Mr Hapunda has made it absolutely clear that the Zam-

bian Government is not prepared to see any more Zambians defying the laws of another sovereign country.

"The first batch of 27 fishermen should be last. The State is not prepared to make any representation for the release of anyone who gets into trouble with the Zimbabwean laws any more," the MP warned.

He was almost jeered at this point, especially at Bbandere Fish Camp — some 45 kilometres east of Siavonga when youthful fishermen pointed to the sky and told the MP that a plane circling above belonged to Zimbabwean wildlife officials.

However, through persuasion, Mr Hapunda managed to contain the situation but on the understanding that the Zambian Government dispatched a police patrol team to arrest those Zimbabweans illegally crossing into Zambia.

There were also allegations of tribalism which Mr Hapunda stamped out throughout his tour. The effect of this was that Siavonga people referred to tribesmen from other parts of Zambia as foreigners.

"Zambia derives her name from this River Zambezi. It goes without saying, therefore, that this same river belongs to all Zambians," Mr Hapunda stressed.

ABIDJAN: WEST AFRICA'S LEADING TUNA PORT

Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 18 Sep 80 p 11

[Text] Abidjan's central position between two major fishing zones, especially for tuna fishing, the islands of Sao Tome and Ile du Prince and the Guinea dome near Conakry, is a choice location which entitles it to be classified as one of the first rank tuna ports of western Africa.

Such is the inescapable conclusion of the report on Ivory Coast fisheries, 1976-1978, furnished by the Department of Maritime and Lagoon Fisheries.

In 1978, the French-Ivorian fleet brought 81 percent of its catch to Abidjan and 16 percent to Dakar (as compared to 71 percent to Abidjan and 28 percent to Dakar in 1977). In 1978 a total of 78,000 tons of fresh tuna was deposited at Abidjan.

At present, the fishing port of Abidjan extends along 1,352 meters of quai. The fishing fleet of 1978 consists of:

Twenty-five trawlers totaling 5,065 tons and 21 sardine boats totaling 2,134 tons. These two sizeable but outmoded fleets need renovation to be started. However, the deficiency of the Ivorian halie utic stock requires a search for new sources in the fishable waters of other countries (Senegal, Mauritania, Guinea, Angola) but the protectionist policies of these countries which seek to reserve these deeps for their own fleets makes it difficult for Ivorian ships to obtain licenses.

Eight tuna boats totaling 5,138 tons. This fleet is developing and two new trans-oceanic units will be put into service this year (cost per unit: 1.5 billion CFA).

Six shrimp boats, 130 tons gross tonnage.

Trawler Fishing

Catch	1976	1977	1978	Variance	
				1976/1977	1977/1978
Tons	14,908	16,467	16,032	+ 10.4%	- 2.6%
Value in millions CFA	1,286.4	1,657.8	2,241.4	+ 28.9%	+ 35.2%
Average price K/CFA	86	101	139	+ 17.4%	+ 37.6%

The relative stability of the trawler take comes from, according to a study by the Center for Oceanographic Research, the diminishing return from Ivorian waters being offset by increases in the catch taken off Guinean and Senegal waters. The sky-rocketing prices are partly due to cost increases (salaries, fuel), partly due to decreases in frozen fish imports (105,000 tons in 1976, 65,000 tons in 1978).

Sardine Fishing

Catch	1976	1977	1978	Variance	
				1976/1977	1977/1978
Tons	33,592	31,283	24,642	- 4 %	- 21 %
Value in millions CFA	1,601.5	1,983.9	2,328.9	+ 23.9%	+ 17.3%
Average price K/CFA	49	63	94	+ 28.6%	- 49.2%

The decrease in tonnage noted since 1977 is caused by the partial disappearance of the Ivorian-Ghanian stock of *Sardinella*, also of the Japanese scomber, a type of mackerel that feeds on the sardinella.

There are also annual variations in herring stock (*Sardinella eba*, a typically Ivorian species) due to bioclimatic influences on the reproductive cycle.

Price increases have the same causes as those for trawler fishing.

For these two categories of fishing, increasing the tonnage of the catch depends on obtaining licenses to fish the waters of other countries.

The 1978 Ivorian tuna catch represents only 20.34 percent of the total take deposited at the port of Abidjan by the whole group of tuna boats (French, Moroccan, Spanish, Japanese) operating in this fishing zone.

Shrimp Fishing

This catch, prepared and frozen at sea, is above all an export item of shrimp to Europe. The average price increases steadily and largely compensates the slight fall in tonnage.

Local Fishing

Catch	1976	1977	1978	Variances	
				1976/1977	1977/1978
Tons	12,000	12,000	12,000	----	----
Value in millions CFA	1,824	2,040	2,532	11.8%	24.1%
Average price KG/CFA	152	170	211	11.8%	24.1%

This type of fishing is very active along the Ivorian coast, where numerous small craft provide a variety of sea products to local markets. The figures in the chart on the preceding page are approximate, as it is difficult to monitor the tonnage brought in through these small boats. However, this sector is being brought under state control and will then be better monitored.

8860

CSO: 5200

GOVERNMENT CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING

Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 30 Sep 1 Oct 80

[Series of articles by Ibrahima Ndiaye: "12,000 Men and Their Families Extract Their Living From the Sea"]

[Excerpt] The importance the government places on fishing has been proved. The Marine Fishing Secretariat was created after 1 Dec 1980 and its objective is to develop fishing which currently has enormous potential. On the African coast, our fishermen are reputed to be the best.

And today, considering the economic situation which prevails in many countries, the government, following new guidelines has deemed it very necessary to revitalize the fishing industry.

For this purpose we met with Fishing Regional Inspector, Mr Cheikh Tidiane Bousso. Regionally, the fishing industry has experienced a definite improvement in the past years, through its administrative structure. One office deals with marine production and popularization control. Another office is designed to aid the development of marine fishing and answers to the CAPAS [expansion unknown] project.

"Fishing," specifies Mr Bousso, "is always dominated by land activity, above all the unadaptability of equipment used in deep-sea fishing." Whatever is said, it must be recognized that fishing is a very dynamic activity, in the sense that it is a year-round enterprise, with a heavy catch from December to May. The penetration of the "cobo" banks is observed from May to November. The rain, which causes desanilization of waters also causes another penetration much more accentuated towards the North of these same "cobo" species.

As for the marine sector, Mr Bousso made us understand that it possesses considerable ichthyological potential, which is hardly exploited.

Concerning fishing development in the Sine-Saloum region, it was verified that the production has more than tripled from 1976 to 1979. This spectacular increase is due, in great part, to the beginning of the Djifer power plant project which has facilitated means of transportation for the products and has limited fishermen's migration. Also, one must note the effort to motorize canoes and equipment with modern fishing gear (purse seine), which further encourages the fisherman to better operate.

Geographic configuration and the rugged coastline are constraining factors for the organization of fishing. It is often difficult to correlate all activities. Mr Bousso stresses that "concerning product marketing, an organization on the scale of cooperatives does not yet exist. Infrastructures are insufficient and a portion of fresh catch is always destined to industrial applications."

As for export products it has retained nothing more than the dry fish interest, in its majority industrial applications. SOPEFINE [expansion unknown] exports almost all its production to Europe and North Africa. And, concerning industrial applications, the old customers were Mali and Guinea People's Republic. Currently, producers are mostly oriented towards Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone.

The Fishing Inspector has also pointed out to us that agriculture is still the prime vocation in the arachidic basin, but today, fishing takes the upper hand and it is getting modernized in the regional and local levels. Mr Bousso has also stressed that beginning in 1980 living conditions for the islands' inhabitants are definitely higher than for the average rural population. An agricultural worker's income does not go beyond 25,000-50,000 CFA francs, while a fisherman's income reaches, in average, 100,000 CFA francs. "And, as far as nutrition goes, the fisherman is, in all cases, better off, because they dispose of nitrate substances of psicole origin. The fisherman also occupies himself with agriculture during slow periods and assures his grain intake. The fisherman can easily meet both needs," noted Mr Bousso.

[Article: "Managing and Modern Wharf and Port"]

[1 Oct 80, p 8]

[Text] One of the concerns of the Fishing Regional Inspection is to definitely settle the fishermen in their original habitat, thereby limiting immigration and rural exodus of island's inhabitants. Besides, a sensitization program has already been launched for this purpose.

Regarding equipment, it was decided that the goal will be to motorize the canoes by 100 percent. In the organization of modern fishing it is a matter, then, of changing our fishermen's way of thinking, heading them towards deep-sea fishing, teaching them new techniques. "We want to gradually improve fishing boats and engines," indicated the inspector. "We are also thinking about modernizing distribution centers, by creating a refrigerated chain."

Concerning production, the Fishing Regional Inspection's goal is to assure a per capita consumption of 67.5 kg per year. Maintaining the progression of population growth at the rate of 2.9 percent per year the need for fresh fish in the Sine-Saloum region will be 76,708 tons for a population of 1,121,604 inhabitants in 1981. "This goal," told us Mr Cheikh Tidiane "won't be easily attained, even with a modern factory fleet, where 40 percent of the production will be used by industry. It will be necessary to count on the support of other regions (Thies, Cape Verde, Fleuve)."

As for canoe fishing, it is a matter of equipping the wharfs with propellers and to motorize the canoes by 100 percent from now to 1981. Currently, motorization rate is 70 percent. The aid program for factory fishing must be retained (CAPAS [expansion unknown] program), which relates to the creation of a distribution

network for canoe fishing products within the outline of the Canadian bilateral aid. Financing and implementation have forecasted the placing and organization of centers like the one in Patick, as well as equipment in refrigerated trucks.

With regards to modern fishing, great attention must be paid to the Djifer power plant project. It is a matter of implementing all projects a few miles from the channel and installing a modern fishing harbor on the Saloum side.

It would be desirable to manage a wharf and accompanying superstructures. Also, for a better development of fishing in the region, the installation of related industries on the Djifer harbor, completing the ones already in existence, will allow the full development of the fishing industry.

In order that the execution of these programs and projects are realized in the best of conditions, it is necessary to create an important human cadre (senior technicians). This will provide, above all, new jobs and a need for industrial improvement, which should address itself to fishing masters, mechanics, equipment technicians and offices for the fishing industry.

The Inspector then concluded: "The future of fishing certainly depends on the growing effort of public powers, but, above all, on the efforts that the collectivities will consent in promoting, instigating and mobilizing all regional living forces for a better growth of this young and dynamic sector."

9626

CSO: 5200

NORWEGIAN PAPER FORECASTS DIFFICULT FISHING TALKS WITH EEC

LD271047 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 23 Oct 80 p 32

(NORSK TELEGRAMBYRA report: "Fisheries Meeting With the EEC")

[Text] Norway and the EEC open negotiations on 23 October to fix the total permitted catch of fish in the North Sea for 1981 and the allocation of the quota among individual countries.

According to information given to NORSK TELEGRAM BYRAA the negotiations in Oslo, which will continue later in Brussels, will be extremely complicated with a serious danger of a reduction in, or even a suspension of, Norwegian fishing in EEC member nations' fishing zones.

The fundamental reason for this development is the enormous overcapacity of Western European fishing fleets and fishing industries, which have led to drastically reduced fish stocks in both the North Sea and the Barents Sea, NORSK TELEGRAM BYRAA was told.

Norway is interested in preserving its traditional prawn fishing off Greenland, its mackerel fishing west of Ireland, and especially its fishing for cod, cusk, ling and spiny dogfish in British waters.

But for Norwegian fishermen to have quotas in these waters, Norway must have something to offer the EEC countries in return, and it is here that the difficulties really make themselves felt. Norway now has even less than usual to offer the EEC countries in the Barents Sea because of the low cod stocks there.

The North Sea quota war is also due to the lack of a joint fisheries policy in the EEC. The fact that the EEC nations have not been able to reach agreement on effective regulations to protect fish stocks led this year to overfishing of mackerel.

CSO: 5200

GREECE

LOS CONFERENCE ADOPTS 12-MILE TERRITORIAL WATER LIMIT FOR GREECE

Athens TO VIMA in Greek 20 Sep 80 p 3

[Article by Giannis Kartalis]

[Text] One more session of the longest international conference ever adjourned last month in Geneva. It is the 9th session of the Third International Conference on the Law of the Sea [LOS] which has set as its ambitious target the signing by 150 countries of an international agreement for a fairer distribution of the sea resources among all nations.

This conference has dealt also with vital Greek interests which concern mainly the sovereign rights in the country's territorial waters, the continental shelf, and the status of the [Aegean Sea] island. The conference has adopted certain positive regulations for Greece such as the 12-mile territorial water zone and the principle that the islands have their continental shelf on which they exercise exclusive rights.

But what is considered as exceedingly favorable to the Greek position is that the sovereign rights of a country extend not only to the 12-mile sea zone but to the air space as well. This means that Greece can extend its territorial waters as well as air space to 12 miles thus assuming complete control of the Aegean Sea (as is known, the territorial sea zone today is limited to 6 miles and the air space to 10 miles).

Continental Shelf of the Islands

This LOS Conference decision has resulted in a reaction from Ankara which repeatedly in the recent past has attempted to violate the Greek air space during Turkish naval exercises in the Aegean Sea in an effort to reduce the 10-mile limit to 6 miles so as to coincide with the present width of the territorial waters.

The sovereign rights a country has on its continental shelf preclude the exploration and exploitation of the natural resources therein (oil, minerals, and so on). These rights are exclusive. This means that if a country does not exercise these rights on its continental shelf no other country has the right to do so without its permission. The regulations already approved state that the exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf cannot prevent free navigation in the adjoining waters.

With regard to the status of the islands, the conference agreed, following extensive discussions, that the islands have a continental economic zone and territorial waters exactly the same as continental sea shores. From a legal point of view, this destroys the Turkish claims that the islands have no continental shelf and that delineation of the Aegean continental shelf should be made on the basis of a line which passes at about the middle of the open sea. Of course, the uninhabited, barren isles are excluded from such status.

Clash of Two Targets

It is characteristic that on both subjects--the islands' continental shelf and the 12-mile territorial zone--Turkey reacted by claiming the view that in the semi-closed seas "with special geographic characteristics" (the reference to the Aegean is clear) the width of the territorial waters should be defined by bilateral agreements between the concerned countries in the area according to the "equitable principle." This view, however, was rejected. On the contrary, it was accepted that wherever the distance between shores is less than 24 miles (12 + 12) the delineation will be made on the basis of the equidistant (from the two shores) line.

One of the most controversial matters the conference discussed and which directly concerns Greece was the delineation of the continental shelf case where the proponents of the "equidistant line" (which the 1958 Geneva agreement adopted) are in total disagreement with those of the "equitable principle" (which Turkey supports). The proponents of the first position (among which is Greece) propose that the delineation of the continental shelf is based on the principle of the "equidistant line" considering also the area's conditions. On the contrary, the group of countries which supports the equitable principle proposes bilateral agreements between neighboring countries on the basis of this principle which, however, allows unilateral, arbitrary interpretation and by-passes the strict international regulations.

In any event, at this stage the LOS Conference has adopted the following proposal as concerns the question of delineation: The delineation of the continental shelf between neighboring countries should be made on the basis of an agreement according to international law. This agreement should be in accord with the equitable principle using at the same time the equidistant line principle and considering the area's circumstances. The attempt to compromise the two views is apparent.

Transit Passage Through Straits

Another problem about to be solved concerns the international straits. The great powers insisted that the status of free navigation which is in force for the open seas should prevail in this case also. Finally the conference adopted the "transit passage" which reconciles free navigation and "harmless passage" which is in force for foreign ships which pass through the territorial waters of a country.

According to the new rules of "transit passage," the ships and aircraft should pass through or fly over the straits without delay and they should avoid any threat or force against the sovereignty, the territorial integrity, and independence of the country surrounding the straits.

At the 9th session of the LOS Conference the Greek delegation which was headed by former Deputy Foreign Minister K. Stavropoulos succeeded in having the session adopt a resolution for the protection of undersea archeological findings. More specifically, it was agreed that each coastal country is under obligation to protect the archeological objects located at the bottom of the sea 24 miles from the shore. Any removal or transportation of such archeological objects will be considered a violation of the sovereign rights the country has in its territorial waters. It is thus believed that the Greek archeological treasures at the bottom of the sea will be protected effectively from the illicit dealers in antiquities.

An All-Inclusive Agreement

For the normal conducting of its intricate work the LOS Conference was divided into three committees:

The first committee deals with the most difficult problem: the establishment of an international status which will govern the bottom of the sea which is located beyond the zones of national jurisdiction and constitutes the so-called "humanity's common heritage."

The second committee examines the general problems of the Law of the Sea.

The third committee deals exclusively with environmental and scientific research problems.

The conference's objectives are ambitious, since it aims at preparing a single text (of the new international agreement) which will include all facets of the Law of the Sea without exception--that is, navigation, territorial waters, international straits, open and semi-closed seas, the coastal countries, the islands, the economic zone, the sea bottom, the continental shelf, the protection of the sea environment and scientific research.

Of exceptional interest are the debates concerning the exploitation of the sea bottom where the interests of the rich and poor countries are at odds since the bottom has sources of invaluable resources. It has been ascertained that the great depths of the oceans have immense quantities of the famous tubercles which contain minerals of great value, especially manganese, nickel, copper, and cobalt. These tubercles are not petrifications but water products.

The sea, then, has enormous mineral resources from which all countries want to derive benefits. The problem, however, is that only the technologically advanced countries--and mainly the United States--can exploit these resources. For this reason the discussions center around the establishment of an organization (the so-called "Principle") which through complicated procedures will undertake to extract and sell these ores.

Despite the exceptionally slow pace of the LOS Conference which began in 1974 in Caracas, the more than 150 participating countries have already agreed to prepare an unofficial draft agreement containing 320 articles and eight appendices. It is expected that next year one more session will take place in New York or Geneva which, it is believed, will be the last one before the final session in Caracas for the panegyric signing of the agreement.

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